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PRESS RELEASE

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

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AUGUSTA, Maine. Maine Revenue Services (MRS) Warns of Identity Theft and Fraudulent Income Tax Returns

AUGUSTA – Intuit, the creator of TurboTax, announced today that they have seen an increase in suspicious filings and attempts to file fraudulent state income tax returns. The fraudulent filings appear to use stolen identity information. Intuit’s press release states that “Intuit believes that these instances of fraud did not result from a security breach of its systems and that the information used to file fraudulent returns was obtained from other sources outside the tax preparation process.” The Intuit press release can be found on their website at <http://www.intuit.com/company/press-room/press-releases/2015/Intuit-working-with-state-governments-to-solve-tax-fraud-problem/>.

There has not been any breach of MRS information systems. A key MRS priority is to maintain the security of taxpayer data and prevent fraudulent activity within Maine state systems. There are numerous technologies and policies in place to safeguard taxpayer information.

MRS is taking extra precautions to verify filings and refunds to ensure that the correct taxpayer receives his or her proper refund. MRS is monitoring the situation with other States and will provide additional information as appropriate.

Learn more about protecting yourself against identity theft and tax fraud by visiting the Identity Protection Tip page on the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Identity-Protection-Tips>.